



For ages
3-5

The Bookworm

From your
local library
and Idaho's Read
to Me program

Help your young child get ready to read...

Developing a love of reading, or **print motivation**, is one of the six early literacy skills that help young children become readers when they begin school. Here's how you can help your child become interested in books:

- Make book-sharing a special time between you and your child. Get comfortable and cozy!
- Let your child see you reading and enjoying reading.
- Visit your public library often. Make it a special night or day of the week and make a big deal about it.
- Let children choose the books they want to read or have read to them.
- Give books as gifts.
- Young children have a short attention span, so keep reading activities brief and fun. Don't worry about finishing a story.
- Share rhymes and songs that young children enjoy. Keeping books fun will keep them coming back for more.

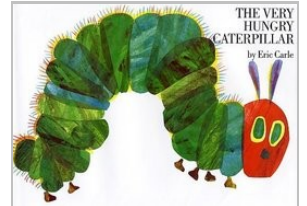


Children who enjoy books will want to learn to read and are more likely to become lifelong readers!

Book of the Month

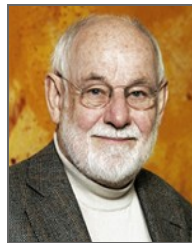
The Very Hungry Caterpillar, by Eric Carle

This all-time favorite not only follows the very hungry caterpillar as it grows from egg to cocoon to beautiful butterfly, but also teaches the days of the week, counting, and nutrition. Your child will want to read it again and again!



About the Author

Eric Carle is the creator of many beautifully illustrated picture books for very young children. Though his best-known work is *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, Carle has illustrated more than 70 books, most of which he also wrote, and more than 88 million copies of his books have sold around the world. Find a complete list of books at www.eric-carle.com or your library.



More great books your child will love:

Goodnight Gorilla, Peggy Rathman

Llama, Llama, Mad at Mama, Anna Dewdney

Wiggle, Doreen Cronin

I Stink! Kate and Jim McMullen

If You Give a Mouse a Cookie, Laura Numeroff

Bark, George! Jules Feiffer

I Ain't Gonna Paint No More, Karen Beaumont

Ask your librarian for other suggestions!

More fun with *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*...

Science and nature... What exactly is that caterpillar doing inside its cocoon? Help your child find out more about caterpillars by finding information books at your library.

Math connection... Put a variety of small fruits and vegetables on a plate. Ask your child to put the ones that are the same together in groups. Ask, "How many ____ (blueberries) are there?" Show your child how to touch each one as you count it. "Sorting" objects into alike groups and counting objects by ones are important skills for your preschooler to develop before entering kindergarten.

Around the house... Post a calendar in your child's room. Write down special occasions or appointments. Talk with your child each morning: "Today is Monday. It is a preschool day. Tomorrow is Grandma's birthday!"

Action Rhyme

Sunday, Sunday,
Clap, clap, clap. (*Clap hands.*)
Monday, Monday,
Tap, tap, tap. (*Tap foot.*)
Tuesday, Tuesday,
Hop, hop, hop. (*Hop on one foot.*)
Wednesday, Wednesday,
Stop, stop, stop. (*Hold up hand.*)
Thursday, Thursday,
Jump, jump, jump (*Jump on two feet.*)
Friday, Friday,
Thump, thump, thump. (*Pound fists together.*)
Saturday, Saturday,
Turn around. (*Turn around.*)
Now smile quietly
Without a sound! (*Sit down and smile.*)

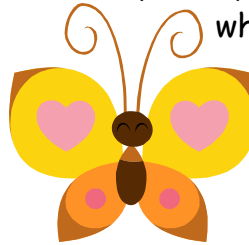


"The Little Caterpillar"

(Sing to the tune of "Itsy, Bitsy Spider")

The little caterpillar crawled up into a tree.
Spun his cocoon and slept so quietly.
All through the winter he didn't make a sound.
He dreamt of his new life when he
could fly around.

While he was sleeping the snow did gently fall.
Winter came and went,
then he heard the robin's call.
Come on, Mr. Butterfly, out of your cocoon.
Spread your wings and fly for me,
while I sing my tune.



-Brooklyn Public Library
"First Five Years"

What your library can do for you...

Most libraries offer special programs for children, free of charge. Storytimes or special events for preschoolers allow "together time" with fun activities and stories. Ask your librarian about programs offered at your local public library.

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